

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4631
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, BE
SUBJECT: BELGIAN TRADE UNION REACTION TO GOVERNMENT/
LABOR CONFRONTATION IN TUNISIA

BELGIUM'S TWO MAJOR TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS, THE
CHRISTIAN CSC AND THE SOCIALIST-ORIENTED FGFB, HAVE
CONDEMNED "BRUTAL, ANTI-TRADE UNION ACTION" BY
GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES IN TUNISIA. THE FGFB TOOK THIS
POSITION IN ITS FEBRUARY 1 EXECUTIVE BUREAU MEETING
IN BRUSSELS. THE CSC, IN A SOMEWHAT LONGER STATEMENT
FOLLOWING ITS BUREAU MEETING JANUARY 31, SAID THAT
IT WAS OUTRAGED AT THE BRUTAL WAY THE TUNISIAN
AUTHORITIES SUPPRESSED THE STRIKE. THE COMMUNIQUE
SAID THAT THE CSC JOINS THE WCL IN CONDEMNING THE SHOOTING
OF WORKERS, THE IMPRISONMENT OF UNION LEADERS, AND
THE INTERFERENCE WITH PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC TRADE
UNION ACTION. THE CSC BUREAU EXPRESSED THE BELIEF
THAT WORLD OPINION WOULD BE SHOCKED BY THE EVENTS,
AND HOPED THAT "SWEEPING MEASURES WILL FOLLOW."
CHAMBERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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